

Sept. 4th Heber Gains Deed To Tabernacle

By JUNE WHEELER,
Deseret News Correspondent

HEBER CITY—A history-rich, red sandstone building—carved from the very hills of Heber Valley—now belongs to the people.

Deed to the Wasatch Stake Tabernacle was presented to the city Thursday evening by Harold J. Call, Wasatch Stake president, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The move climaxed a year's persistence by a group of Heber Valley citizens to preserve the tradition-filled tabernacle. It had been scheduled for demolition to clear the way for a new stake center.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

City officials, members of the Wasatch Stake presidency and officers of the Wasatch Historical Society attended the Thursday night meeting.

It was announced that Heber City Corp. had paid \$60,000 for the property—\$45,000 for the half block on which the tabernacle and social hall stand, and \$15,000 for repurchase of an adjoining tennis court.

The court was sold to Wasatch Stake by the city when demolition plans were made. It was to be used as a parking lot for the new building.

DONATED \$22,000

Wasatch Historical Society donated \$22,000 toward purchase of the tabernacle property. Under direction of the Heber

City Council, the society will maintain the tabernacle and supervise activities held there.

Surrounding grounds will be used for a city park. New picnic tables have already been placed by the city. Civic groups have expressed interest in helping develop the park.

No immediate plans have been made for use of the social hall.

Meanwhile, the new two-ward stake center of Wasatch Stake will rise at 188 W. 1st North. The stake has already purchased homes of R. "Dusty" Carille, Farrell Reynolds and Florence Nelson to make way.

Partial lots owned by Owen Buell and Lincoln Pasbard have also been secured.

Old Tabernacle Passes Over To Heber City

Special to The Tribune

HEBER CITY — The deed to Wasatch Stake Tabernacle, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was presented to Heber City, through City Recorder Russel Giles, in a special ceremony Thursday night.

The city will convert the structure into a cultural center with help from the Wasatch Historical Society. Price for the tabernacle was \$60,000. The sum paid by Heber City and the Wasatch Historical Society.

The LDS Church will apply the money toward a new tabernacle in Heber City.

Date ?

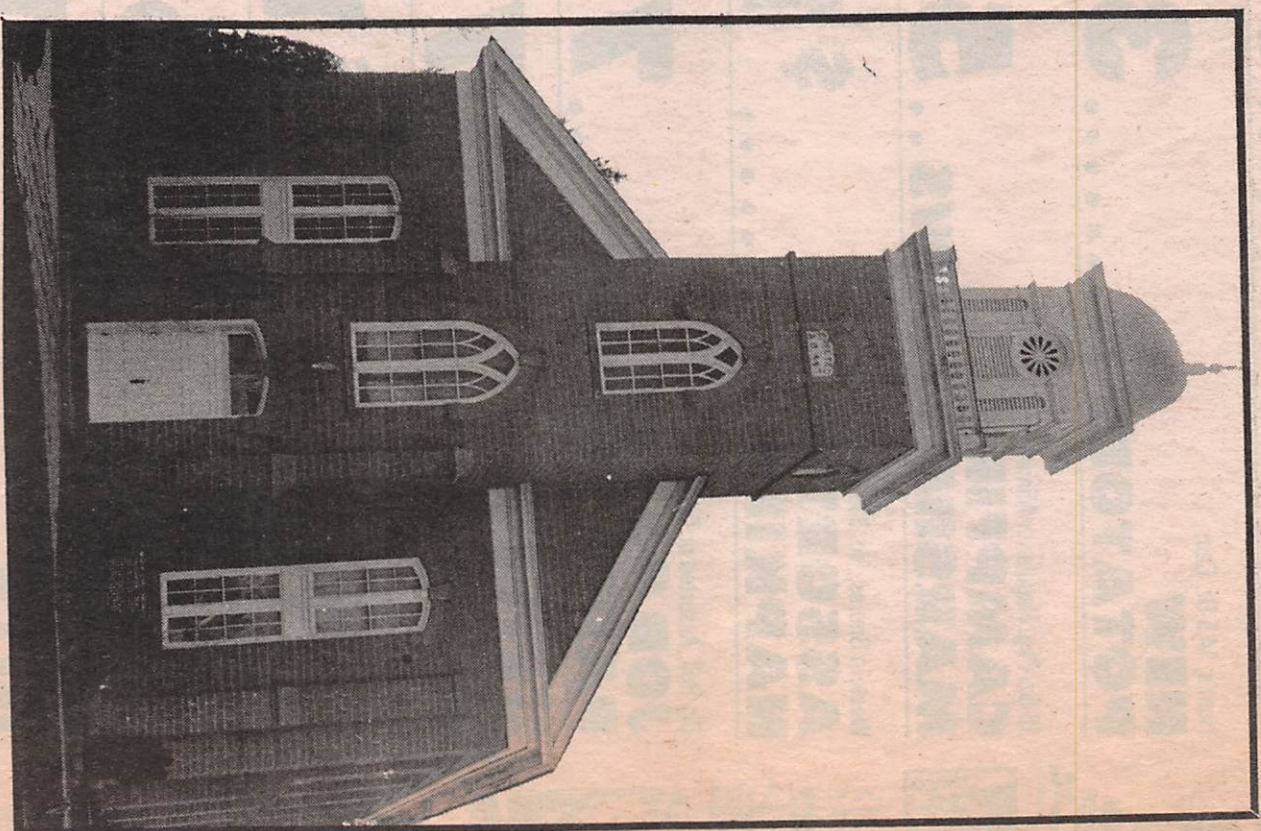
25

WASATCH STAKE TABERNACLE PRESERVATION PROJECT

PRESERVED UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UTAH STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WASATCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND
HEBER CITY.

RESTORATION OF THIS PROPERTY, WHICH IS LISTED IN THE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, WAS FUNDED WITH
MATCHING GRANT - IN-AID FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, UNDER PROVISIONS OF
THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966.

ERECTED 1975



Preserving A Bit Of History

WITH OFFICIAL transfer of the Heber Tabernacle to Heber City for restoration and preservation as a cultural center, a three-year puzzle on what to do with the old building has been solved.

Almost everyone favored preserving the historic structure, which had outlived its usefulness for Church purposes. That the building will now be retained and put to good use is the result of cooperative response on the part of many.

Among them were the First Presidency and Wasatch Stake presidency

of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, owners of the old structure, Heber City officials who have accepted jurisdiction of the Tabernacle, and especially, citizens of Heber Valley who joined together to raise \$60,000 necessary to secure a substitute site for a new Heber Stake center.

BECAUSE OF these efforts, in years to come visitors will not only be able to enjoy use of the hall, but also see a handsome example of pre-1900 Utah architecture and craftsmanship

It is one of the most prominent structures in Heber. It has stood straight and tall through the many years since it was constructed.

There aren't many old buildings like this one still around, and when you enter into it, if you listen closely you can still hear the singing of the early saints as they sang out praise to their god.

Maybe the structure is a little dusty inside, but there is the ever present recognition, that those who settled here before were strong and sturdy men who knew how to build a building to last through the ages.

